



NEWS RELEASE

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA) – 1300 MILITARY ROAD – LINCOLN, NE 68508-1090

Joint Information Center (JIC)

July 29, 2012, 09:00 a.m. CDT

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Nebraska JIC Daily Update

Highlights

Crews made good progress on the Wentworth and Hall Fires. Both are now at 90 percent containment. Fairfield is at 100 percent containment and remains in patrol status.

Weather

Hot and dry is the forecast for tomorrow and for the immediate future. Fuels will continue to be very receptive to fire and the potential for new starts remains elevated. Residents can expect to see smoke within the interior especially in the afternoon when temperatures are at their highest and relative humidity is at its lowest.

Strategies

- Fairfield – patrol status.
- Wentworth and Hall - crews will hold and improve lines, mop-up and patrol.
- Structure protection will continue on all three fires.

Operations have shifted to demobilizing resources. On Monday the Rocky Mountain Incident Management Team (IMT) will transition the incident back to the local authorities. This is the last news release from the IMT. From all the members on the team we'd like to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to the affected communities and all of the amazing volunteers. Your hospitality and cooperation has been exceptional. Thank you!

Road Closures

No road closures are in place. However, expect heavy emergency vehicle traffic as engines and other resources are released from the fire in route to their home units.

Evacuations:

No evacuations are in place at this time.

Fire stats at a glance:

Start Date: July 20, 2012

Containment: 90 percent, estimate containment July 30,

Cause: Lightning

Acreage: 75,872 total (Fairfield 66,745; Wentworth, 6,373; Hall, 2,754)

Personnel: 269 plus approximately 30 Rural Fire Department personnel

Crews: 2 crews on the fire line

Cooperating Agencies: Brown, Keya Paha and Cherry County Sheriff Offices; State of Nebraska; Ainsworth, Springview, Valentine, and Wood Lake VFDs*; Region 24 Emergency Management; Nebraska National Guard; Nebraska State Fire Marshall; Nebraska Emergency Management Agency; Nebraska State Patrol; Nebraska Forest Service; Nebraska Department of Roads; National Park Service; The Nature Conservancy; and American Red Cross

Aviation: One heavy-lift helicopters, and one light
Engines: 20, plus 10 Rural Fire Department engines
Injuries: 3 (minor)

Structures destroyed: 14 residence 17 associated outbuildings
Structures/outbuildings threatened: 152

***100 Volunteer Fire Departments responded as part of the mutual aid.**

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[List of County Emergency Managers](http://www.nema.ne.gov/director-lists/directors.html) - <http://www.nema.ne.gov/director-lists/directors.html>

[List of Nebraska Local Health Departments](http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/puh_oph_lhd.aspx#Websites)

http://dhhs.ne.gov/publichealth/Pages/puh_oph_lhd.aspx#Websites

For up to date fire information and latest fire map visit: <http://inciweb.org/>

